

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub 2

1. A network based system for reconciling accounts between a parent and a subsidiary of a business entity using an account reconciliation system coupled to a centralized database, said method comprising the steps of:

accessing an account reconciliation system after logging onto the system with a user identification and a password;

receiving account information from a centralized database; and

submitting accounting entries to balance the account based on the received account information to the centralized database to reconcile account variances.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving account information further comprises the step of displaying at least one of a BSLA, an affiliate BSLA, an Account Number, a Description of the Account, a Treasury Balance indicating the treasury balance booked by a parent corporation, a Business Balance indicating the amount booked by a subsidiary of the parent corporation, a Contact Name of the BSLA selected, a Contact Phone Number of the contact name, a Fiscal Month, a start date 214 of the fiscal month, and an end date of the fiscal month.

3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving account information further comprises the step of receiving a variance amount between a business balance and a treasury balance.

4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving account information further comprises the steps of:

displaying at least one row to enter information; and

displaying at least one column to allow a user to input a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of submitting accounting entries to balance the account further comprises the steps of:

entering against an account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity; and

storing against the account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of submitting accounting entries to balance the account further comprises the steps of:

computing a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance;

downloading the new account variance; and

displaying the new account variance.

7. A method according to Claim 6 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of generating account reconciliation information in a variety of reporting formats.

8. A method according to Claim 7 wherein said step of generating further comprises the steps of:

downloading requested information from a server system; and

displaying requested information on a client system in response to the inquiry.

9. A method according to Claim 7 wherein said step of generating further comprises the step of printing requested information.

10. A method according to Claim 7 wherein said step of generating information further comprises the steps of:

receiving an inquiry from a user;
accepting the inquiry from a user; and
delivering information to the user in response to the inquiry.

5 11. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving an inquiry from the client system further includes the step of submitting a request through pull down menus.

12. A method according to Claim 8 wherein said step of displaying information further includes the step of displaying an HTML document downloaded by the server system.

13. A method according to Claim 8 wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of displaying at least one alternative from various alternatives available to the user.

14. A method according to Claim 8 wherein said step of downloading the information in response to the inquiry further comprises the steps of:

15 accessing the centralized database;

searching the database regarding the specific inquiry;

retrieving information from the database; and

transmitting the retrieved information to the client system for display by the client system.

20 15. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of submitting accounting entries to balance the account further comprises the step of selecting one of a method for submitting accounting entries out of at least an Enter Cash Account Reconciliation and a Down/UpLoad Cash Account Reconciliation.

25 16. A method according to Claim 15 wherein said step of submitting accounting entries by utilizing the Enter Cash Account Reconciliation further comprises the steps of:

entering a user input against an account identifier including at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a

Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

5 storing the user input against the account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

uploading the user input to update the account information; and

computing a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance.

17. A method according to Claim 15 wherein said step of submitting accounting entries by utilizing the Down/UpLoad Cash Account Reconciliation further comprises the steps of:

15 creating required files associated with the account;

20 displaying against an account identifier, at least one of a BSLA, an affiliate BSLA, an Account Number, a Description of the Account, a Treasury Balance indicating the treasury balance booked by a parent corporation, a Business Balance indicating the amount booked by a subsidiary of the parent corporation, a Contact Name of the BSLA selected, a Contact Phone Number of the contact name, a Fiscal Month, a start date of the fiscal month, and an end date of the fiscal month;

25 displaying at least one column to allow a user to input at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

30 accepting a user input against the account identifier, at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity; and

storing the user input against the account identifier, at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

18. A method according to Claim 17 wherein said step of storing the user input against the account identifier further comprises the steps of:

uploading the user input to update the account information; and

computing a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance.

19. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the client system and the server system are connected via a network and wherein the network is one of a wide area network, a local area network, an intranet and the Internet.

20. A network based method as utilized by a parent corporation to manage and track accounts, using an account reconciliation system coupled to a centralized database, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving account information;

analyzing accounting entries relating to the account based on the account information;

computing the account variance by comparing the received account information against the account information stored in a centralized database; and

reporting the account variance to a user in response to an inquiry.

21. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising submitting the account information to an account tracking application.

22. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving the account information further comprises the steps of receiving and storing at least one of a user's account balance information and reconciliation information.

23. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving the account information into the centralized database further comprises the step of receiving the account information at least via an intranet and the Internet.

24. A system for account reconciliation, said system comprising:

at least one computer;

a server configured to read, receive and store input account information, calculate an account variance and report an account variance to a user;

a network connecting the server to the computer; and

a user interface allowing a requester to input account information and to receive account variance output.

25. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is further configured to automatically submit the account information to an account tracking application.

26. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is configured to receive information by at least one of the Internet, an intranet, a wide area network and a local area network.

27. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is configured to receive account balance information.

28. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is configured to receive and store profile information.

29. A system according to Claim 28 wherein said server is further configured to analyze the profile information for restricted access.

30. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is configured to calculate an account variance using a pre-defined algorithm.

31. A system according to Claim 24 wherein said server is configured to receive and store reconciliation information.

32. A network-based system for managing accounts reconciliation, said system comprising:

a client sub-system comprising a browser;

a data storage device for storing information;

a server sub-system configured to be coupled to said client sub-system and said database, said server sub-system further configured to:

5 access an account reconciliation system after logging onto the system with a user identification and a password;

receive an account information from a centralized database; and

submit accounting entries to balance the account based on the received account information to the centralized database to reconcile account variances.

33. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said client sub-system is further configured with:

a displaying component to display available options to the user; and

15 a sending component to send an inquiry to the server sub-system so that the server sub-system can process and download the requested information to the client sub-system.

34. A system according to Claim 33 wherein the sending component functions in response to a click of a mouse button.

35. A system according to Claim 34 wherein the sending component functions in response to a voice command.

20 36. The client system of Claim 32 wherein said system is further configured to be protected from access by unauthorized individuals.

37. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system is further configured with:

25 a collection component for collecting information from users into the centralized database;

a tracking component for tracking information on an on-going basis;

a displaying component for displaying information;

a receiving component for receiving an inquiry from the client sub-system; and

an accessing component for accessing the centralized database and causing the retrieved information to be displayed on the client sub-system.

38. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured with a receiving component for receiving an inquiry to provide information from one of a plurality of users.

39. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured with a processing component for searching and processing received inquiries against the data storage device containing a variety of information collected by the collection component.

40. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured with a retrieving component to retrieve information from the data storage device.

41. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured with an information fulfillment component that downloads the requested information after retrieving from the database to the plurality of users in the order in which the requests were received by the receiving component.

42. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured to print requested information.

43. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured to accept an inquiry from a user.

44. A system according to Claim 37 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

display information on the client sub-system; and

receive an inquiry from the client sub-system.

45. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

display information on the client sub-system; and

receive an inquiry from the client sub-system.

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46. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

track information on a real time basis; and

store information on a real time basis by adding new information to the centralized database on a real time basis to provide up-to date information instantaneously to the user upon a request.

47. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive information entered on-line.

48. A system according to Claim 47 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive information entered through at least one of a voice activation command and a device connected to the client sub-system.

49. A system according to Claim 47 wherein said server sub-system further configured to submit a request through pull down menus.

50. A system according to Claim 45 wherein said server sub-system further configured to display an HTML document downloaded by the server sub-system.

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51. A system according to Claim 45 wherein said server sub-system further configured to display at least one alternative out of various alternatives available to the user.

52. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive an account information further comprises the step of displaying at least one of a BSLA, an affiliate BSLA, an Account Number, a Description of the Account, a Treasury Balance indicating the treasury balance booked by a parent corporation, a Business Balance indicating the amount booked by a subsidiary of the parent corporation, a Contact Name of the BSLA selected, a

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Contact Phone Number of the contact name, a Fiscal Month, a start date of the fiscal month, and an end date of the fiscal month.

53. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive an account information further comprises the step of receiving a variance amount between a business balance and a treasury balance.

54. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive an account information further comprises the steps of:

display at least one row to enter information; and

display at least one column to allow a user to input at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

55. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

enter against an account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity; and

store against the account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

56. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

compute a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance;

download the new account variance; and

display the new account variance.

5 57. A system according to Claim 56 wherein said server sub-system further configured to generate account reconciliation information in a variety of reporting formats.

58. A system according to Claim 57 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

download requested information from said server sub-system; and

display requested information on said client sub-system in response to the inquiry.

59. A system according to Claim 57 wherein said server sub-system further configured to print requested information.

60. A system according to Claim 57 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

receive an inquiry from a user;

accept the inquiry from a user; and

deliver information to the user in response to the inquiry.

61. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to submit a request through pull down menus.

20 62. A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server sub-system further configured to display an HTML document downloaded by said server sub-system.

25 63. A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server sub-system further configured to display at least one alternative from various alternatives available to the user.

64. A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

access the centralized database;

search the database regarding the specific inquiry;

retrieve information from the database; and

transmit the retrieved information to the client system for display by
the client system.

65. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to select one of a method for submitting accounting entries out of at least an Enter Cash Account Reconciliation and a Down/UpLoad Cash Account Reconciliation.

66. A system according to Claim 65 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

enter a user input against an account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

store the user input against the account identifier at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

upload the user input to update the account information; and

compute a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance.

67. A system according to Claim 65 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

create required files associated with the account;

display against an account identifier, at least one of a BSLA, an affiliate BSLA, an Account Number, a Description of the Account, a Treasury Balance indicating the treasury balance booked by a parent corporation, a Business Balance indicating the amount booked by a subsidiary of the parent corporation, a Contact Name of the BSLA selected, a Contact Phone Number of the contact name, a Fiscal Month, a start date of the fiscal month, and an end date of the fiscal month;

display at least one column to allow a user to input at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity;

accept a user input against the account identifier and at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity; and

store the user input against the account identifier and at least one of a dollar amount Booked by Business, a dollar amount Booked by Treasury, a Currency Code, a Conversion Rate, a Description, a date of transaction, an amount identified in Treasury Journal, a Treasury Source relating to the treasury journal, a code for an Office and a Legal Entity.

68. A system according to Claim 67 wherein said server sub-system further configured to:

upload the user input to update the account information; and

compute a new account variance between a business balance and a treasury balance.

69. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to connect to the client sub-system via a network and wherein the network is one of a wide area network, a local area network, an intranet and the Internet.

70. A network based account reconciliation system coupled to a centralized database, said system comprising:

a client sub-system including a browser;

a data storage device for storing information;

a server sub-system configured to be coupled to said client sub-system and said database, said server sub-system further configured to:

receive an account information;

analyze accounting entries relating to the account based on the account information;

compute the account variance by comparing the received account information against the account information stored in said centralized database; and

report the account variance to a user in response to an inquiry.

71. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to submit the account information to an account tracking application.

72. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive and store at least one of a user's account balance information and reconciliation information.

73. A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server sub-system further configured to receive the account information via at least one of an intranet, the Internet, a local area network, and a wide area network.